12. Coal Controller, Calcutta.

(c) and (d) Question doesn't arise.

Supply of coal to cement and sponge iron industry from the nearest coal pit

948. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to meet full requirements of the cement industry and sponge iron industry from the nearest coal pit to avoid national wastage of transportation;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the expected requirement of coal to meet the immediate requirement of coal of these industries and by what time their entire requirement is expected to be met?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c) The allocation of coal to various cement plants and sponge iron plants is decided upon by Standing Linkage Committee comprising of representatives from concerned Ministries/Departments including Railways, Planning Commission and Coal Companies. While deciding the coal linkage, efforts are always made by the Committee to provide coal from a rational source taking into account factors like location of the plant, distance and mode of transportation from the mine and the development plan of the mine from which coal could be supplied.

In the current year (1991-92) coal requirement for the cement industry has been assessed as 12.70 mt. and that for sponge iron 0.90 mt. By the terminal year of Eighth Plan i.e. 1996-97, the coal requirement for the cement and sponge iron industries is expected to go upto 17.40 mt. and 3.10 mt. respectively. These industries require better grades of coal which are available only at few places like Korba, Central India, Wardha, Raniganj, South Karanpura and Godavari Valley Coalfields. While linked consumers from all Coalfields other than Godavari Valley Coalfields (Singareni Collieries Company Limited) are by and large receiving coal according to their requirement, there has been some shortfall in availability from Godavari Valley Coalfield. Efforts are being made to increase the production to meet the projected demand of these industries in the Eighth Plan.

कोयले की गुणवत्ता को सुधारने के लिए अनुसंधान

949. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या **कोयला** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में सर्वोत्तम श्रेणी का कोयला उपलब्ध न होने के कारण कोयला अधिकांश मात्रा में आयात किया जाता है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि विगत वर्षों के दौरान अच्छी किस्म के कोयले की खोज करने के लिये प्रयास नहीं किया गया है ; और कोई

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में तथ्य क्या हैं और इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या योजना है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री एस०बी० नयमेगौड़ा) : (क) से (ग) भारतीय कोयला संसाधन उच्च राख की मात्रा वाले तत्वों तथा निम्न गुणवत्ता के स्वरूप के हैं । अच्छे ग्रेड के कोयले के भण्डारों का अंश केवल लगभग 25% है और जोकि मुख्यतः बिहार बंगाल तथा सेंट्रल इण्डिया के कोयला क्षेत्रों में पाया जाता है जबकि अन्य औद्योगिक उपभोक्ताओं ने उपलब्ध देशीय ग्रेड के कोयले के लिये उपयुक्त कम्बूशन उपकरण का समायोजन करने